

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, 13-15 and 20-30 are presently pending in the subject application.

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 20-30 are newly added herein and all depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. The language of the new claims is supported in the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 15-20; page 8, lines 9-14; page 16, lines 12-16; the paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18; page 20, lines 14-17; page 22, lines 11-17; the paragraph bridging pages 25 and 26; and the paragraph bridging pages 28 and 29. Thus, Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by the claim amendments herein.

Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims render moot all of the rejections of record. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and (e), 103(a) and 112, first paragraph, are hereby respectfully requested.

Related Applications

The subject application is related to co-pending U.S. application Serial No.10/607,416, filed June 23, 2003 by the same inventors, and published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2005/0260562 A1 on November 24, 2005.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby respectfully requested.

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Date: December 27, 2006

Serial No. 10/601,913
Atty. Docket No. GP087-04.CN1

Please charge any fees due in connection with this Reply, including the fee due for a three-month extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 07-0835 in the name of Gen-Probe Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,

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